



U.S. Army Corps of
Engineers
Honolulu District

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice No.

Date: August 30, 2001

200100125

Reply to:

Respond by: September 30, 2001

Regulatory Branch (CEPOH-EC-R/W.Lennan)
U.S. Army Engineer District, Honolulu
Building 230
Fort Shafter, Hawaii 96858-5440

PN200100125

PROPOSED CONVERSION OF PASTURE LAND TO CROPS
IN KAHALUU, HAWAII

1. **APPLICANT:** Matamoana Ranch & Farm, P.O. Box 31245, Honolulu, Hawaii 96820
2. **APPLICABLE STATUTORY AUTHORITY:** Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).
3. **LOCATION OF PROPOSED ACTIVITY:** 47-630 Kamehameha Highway, Kaneohe, Oahu, Hawaii. The area is commonly known as Waihee Marsh (Figure 1).
4. **PROJECT PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION:** Matamoana Ranch & Farm intends to convert a portion of their property from pasture/ranching to crop farming. The applicant proposes to cultivate dry-land taro, wetland taro, yam, kava, and various Tongan vegetables, as well as to develop fish ponds (Figure 2).

The parcel has been used as a pasture for many years, and the land is zoned for agriculture. Construction of the wet taro ponds and the fish ponds will involve excavation and the placement of fill to create berms around the ponds. The dry-land taro and vegetable crop area will not require the discharge of additional fill, but will result in working the soil with machinery.

5. **IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED ACTIVITIES IF AUTHORIZED:**

Unavoidable impacts of the proposed project would include temporary increases in dust and noise in the immediate area of construction, and during the planting of crops. No long range adverse impacts are expected. A long range benefit will be the addition of shallow open water in the wet-land taro ponds.

6. IMPACT ON HISTORIC PROPERTIES:

No significant cultural or archaeological resources are known to exist within the area. In the event that unanticipated or inadvertent discovery of historic properties occur during project execution, all work shall be stopped and the State Historic Preservation Office will be notified. This is a general condition that will be included in the Department of Army permit.

This notice has been sent to the State Historic Preservation Officer, the State Office of Hawaiian Affairs and Hui Malama I Na Kupuna. Any comments they have regarding historic properties and cultural resources will be considered before a final decision is made on the permit.

7. IMPACT ON ENDANGERED SPECIES: The project will likely not have any effect on any proposed, candidate or listed threatened or endangered species. This notice is being sent to both the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service. Any comments they have concerning potential impacts to protected species will be considered before a final decision is made on the permit.

8. ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: No adverse impacts to essential fish habitat are expected. This notice has been sent to the National Marine Fisheries Service. Any comments they have concerning potential impacts to essential fish habitat will be considered before a final decision is made on the permit.

9. OTHER GOVERNMENT AUTHORIZATIONS/CERTIFICATIONS:

a. A Water Quality Certification will be required from the State of Hawaii, Department of Health, Clean Water Branch.

b. A Coastal Zone Management Federal Consistency Determination will be required from the State of Hawaii Office of Planning, Coastal Zone Management Program.

10. EVALUATION FACTORS: The decision to issue the permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts, of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, historic values, fish and wildlife values, flood damage prevention, land use, navigation, recreation, water supply, water quality, energy needs, safety, food production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

11. COMMENTS AND INQUIRIES: Recipients of this Public Notice or other interested parties may submit in writing any comments that they have on the proposed issue of the permit. Comments or written inquiries may be sent by FAX to (808) 438-4060, or by mail to the address above. Comments must reach this District no later than 30 days from the date of this notice. Written inquiries and comments should refer to permit number 200100125. Further information may also be obtained from William Lennan, telephone (808) 438-6986. This Public Notice is posted on the Honolulu District web site at <http://www.pod.usace.army.mil/news/newsrel.htm/>

11. REQUEST FOR PUBLIC HEARING:

Any person may request, in writing, within 30 days from the date of this notice that a public hearing be held to consider the proposed permit issue. Requests for public hearing shall state clearly and concisely the reasons and rationale for holding a public hearing.

- Figure 1. Location Map
- Figure 2. General Farming/Ranching Plan
- Figure 3. Fish Pond Plan

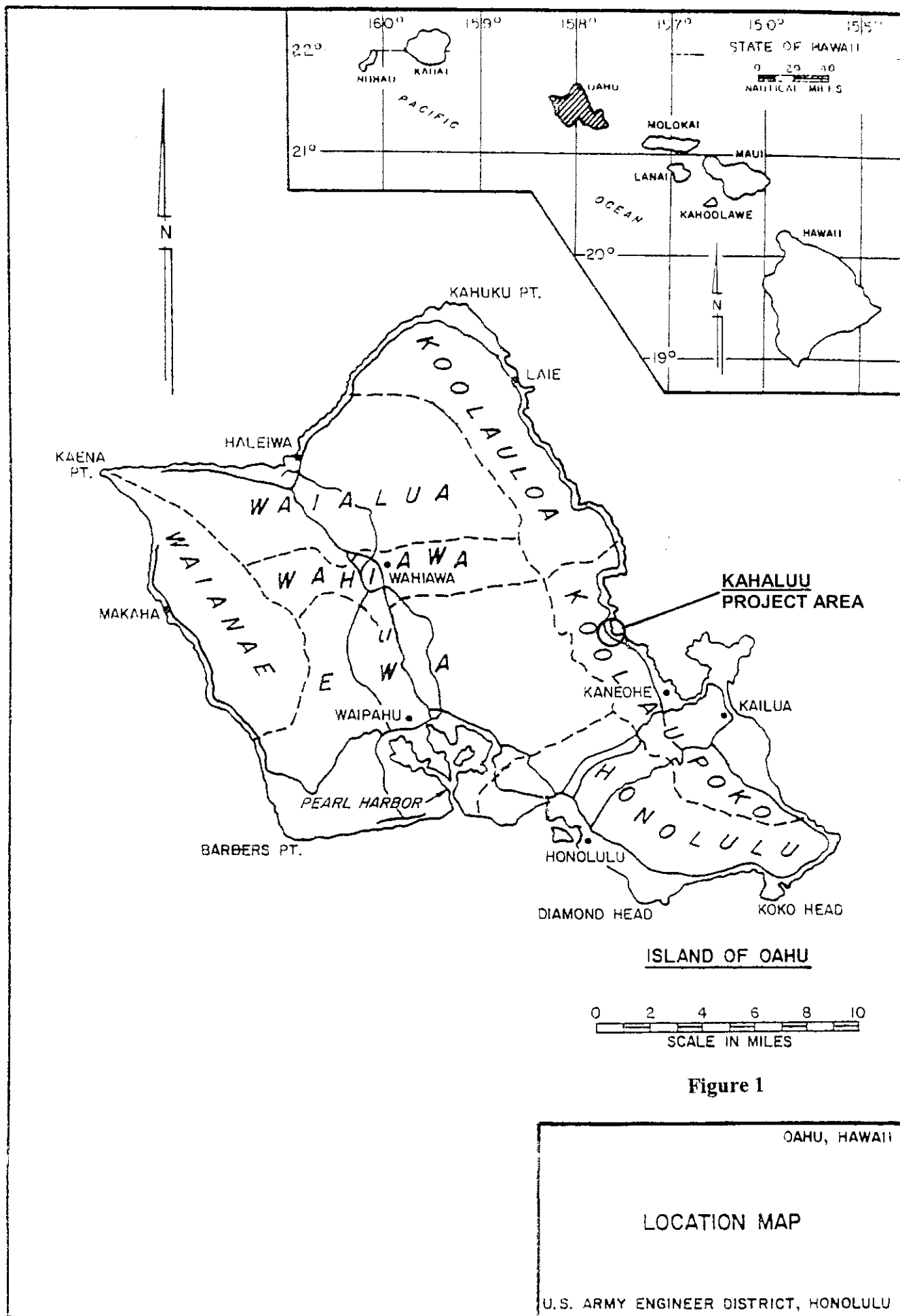


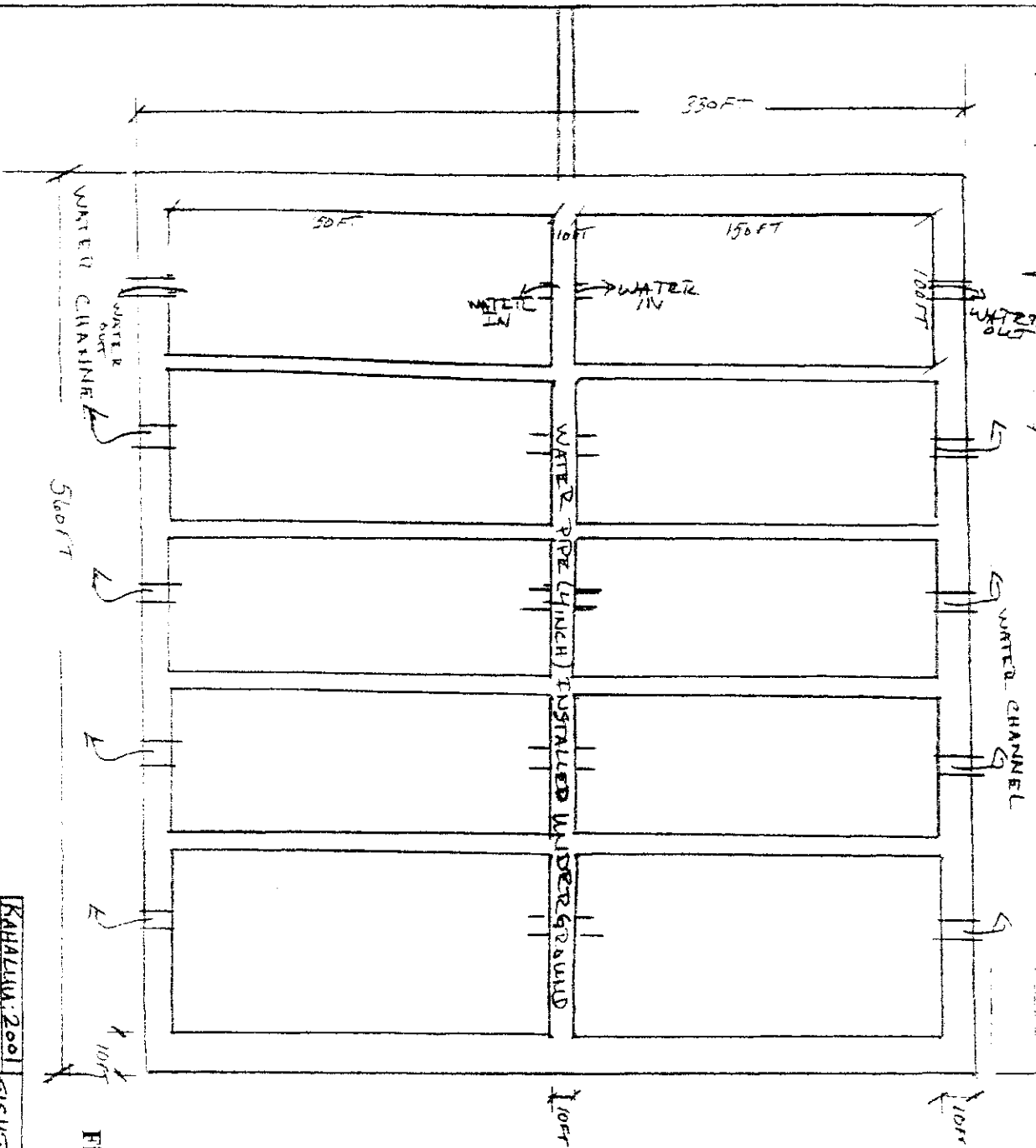


Figure 2

GENERAL FARMING/
RANCHING PLAN

WATER FLOW

WATER STREAM



500 FT

Figure 3

KAHALUA 2001

FISH POND PLAN

NOTES

- 1) EACH FISH POND ARE 100 FEET WIDE & 150 FEET IN LENGTH
- 2) EACH POND ARE 10 FEET WIDE AND 150 FEET IN LENGTH. ALL SUBJECT TO B. CHASING SO CARS CAN RUN THROUGH
- 3) TOTAL OF 10 FISH PONDS
- 4) EACH POND ARE 10 FEET WIDE AND 150 FEET IN LENGTH. ALL SUBJECT TO B. CHASING SO CARS CAN RUN THROUGH
- 5) WATER FROM STREAM IS FLOWED INTO EACH POND
- 6) A VALVE IS INSTALLED INTO THE MAIN PIPE FOR EACH POND. A WAT GATE IS INSTALLED TO CONTROL THE DRAINAGE OF EACH POND. WATER IS THEN FLOWED BACK INTO THE STREAM
- 7) EACH POND IS 3 FT DEEP
- 8) TAKE PATCHES WITH SEWER AT BUREAU OF WATER FOR WATER REPAIRING AND TO THE STATE